

The Power of a Godly Headship
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Introduction: Our God has given us teachings that will bless us greatly.

- A. Authority is at the heart of all that God does on our behalf.
 - 1. The essence of conversion is the yielding of the heart to the *Lordship of Jesus*.
 - 2. When a heart is opened and then crushed, God rebuilds it with His Son reigning in the heart. **(Acts 2:36-38)**
 - 3. The message of grace is an invitation to become *a willing slave*. **(Rom 6:16-18)**
- B. Yielding to Jesus' headship will bring an abundant life. **(Jn 10:10)**
 - 1. Jesus as a Shepherd always leads His sheep to nourishment and safety.
 - 2. Jesus is the example of a perfect head. **(Jn 10:11-14)**

I. Nations should be led by men who fear God and His ways

- A. God gives authority for the existence and limits of civil government. **(Rom 13:1-4)**
 - 1. Governments should swiftly punish evil doers.
 - 2. The leaders of governments should fear God! **(Psa 33:12, 16-18; Prov 14:34)**
- B. Our God has ordained governments. He is involved *in their rise* and *in their fall*. **(Rev 2:26-27)**
 - 1. There is a level of ungodliness that a nation reaches where God then acts. **(Gen 15:16)**
 - 2. Given time all nations will fail. What truly will last? **(Isa 40:15-17)**
 - 3. We will show what our relationship to God means to us by how we submit to our government.
- C. There is little we can do to directly affect the leadership of our country. **(1 Pt 2:13-15)**
 - 1. We can spread the gospel and change the people.
 - 2. What was Sodom like when God destroyed it? Our God sees and knows!
 - 3. When a country falls, God will take care of His people. **(Hab 2:3-4)**

II. Churches need shepherds who imitate Christ

- A. God has directed churches to appoint men who will oversee the flock. **(1 Pt 5:1-4)**
 - 1. The needs of the flock must be put first. The flock does not exist to make life easy for the shepherd!
 - 2. The shepherd must *stand up and fight* when the flock is endangered.
 - 3. A real leader will often have opponents and scoffers.
 - 4. When leadership requires that you confront others and lead contrary to popular culture, *you will have enemies!* **(Titus 1:9-11; Lk 6:26)**
- B. Three areas where shepherds must be strong.
 - 1. They must communicate the entire will of God. **(Acts 20:26-28)**
 - a. When "peace" or numbers become the priority, then teaching will be lost.
 - b. When elders fail to *demand proper teaching* then the flock is in danger.
 - 2. They must stay connected with the flock.

- a. There must be 2 way communication and association.
- b. Respect should cause the flock to listen carefully. **(1 Thess 5:12-13)**
- 3. They must be watchful and warn. **(Acts 20:29-32)**
 - a. Solid men will not give into the fads of the day. (Ex. Less teaching)
 - b. The always will be doctrinal departures affecting churches. Brave men will stand up early and warn. They will pay a price in “popularity.”
 - c. How many churches have been harmed by “reactive” men when they needed “proactive” men? Cowardice has done great damage in churches.

III. We need men to be heads of their homes

- A. Men must be like Christ in being involved with their family. **(Eph 5:23-25)**
 - 1. This means sacrifice. Men must be involved and looking out for the home.
 - 2. This will take time and communication. You needs must come last.
 - 3. Many men have abandoned their headship.
 - 4. Consider two kinds of men and how they handle their child going off to college. What comes first? What things will such a man do? **(Mt 6:33)**
- B. Things that a good head will provide for their children.
 - 1. The example of a godly marriage. **(1 Pt 3:5-7)**
 - 2. Sometimes a woman will not submit to the husband. (Ex. A woman who refused to move with her husband when he moved for a new job.)
 - 3. When a marriage is divided it often greatly affects the children. (Ex. Students we lose.)
 - 4. A good head will act even when opposed within his own home.
- C. Consider how a man must teach and stand concerning modest dress and actions.
 - 1. Dress and public participation in popular events is a sensitive area.
 - 2. Woman rarely can see how their dress may affect a man. **(Mt 5:27-29)**
 - 3. When a godly man is head of his house he will stand up. What happens when a cowardly man is not the head of his house? (Ex. Halter top and dating.)
 - 4. What is the Bible standard? **(1 Tim 2:9-10)**
 - a. Dress is not to draw attention to the person. There is a sense of shame.
 - b. What should be in the heart of a godly woman?
 - c. Nakedness should always cause shame. **(Gen 2:25; 3:7, 10-11)**
 - d. What did God make to cover their nakedness? **(Gen 3:21)**
 - e. Both man and women were given instructions. **(Ex 28:41-42)**
 - 5. Should a daughter be allowed to be a cheerleader? To be a part of a social sorority? To participate in public dances? Careful investigation is needed!
- D. Similar compromises can be made with sons.
 - 1. One man I knew made compromises that affected his family and several churches. The issue later developed into living together outside of marriage.
 - 2. One church forbid teaching on these subjects and lost an entire generation of young people.
- E. One of the major reason we have strong young men and women is because they have come from strong homes and from strong churches! **(Josh 24:15)**